



The Cougar Courier

Respect Others, Accept Responsibility
COUGARS ROAR!

East Amwell
Township School

Cougar Courier
June 2010—Vol. 10

June 2010
Calendar

The Superintendent's Corner

Greetings,

As the year comes to a close, I would like you to join me in wishing the best of luck to six staff members who will be retiring at the end of this year.

Ms. Patricia Chwat has been with the District for 38 years. She has taught 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades and Basic Skills to all levels of students.

Mrs. Joan DiMatteo has been with the District for 25 years as a Food Service Worker in our Cafeteria.

Mrs. Cynthia Mollis has been with the District for 23 years as a 3rd Grades Teacher as well as a Special Education Teacher.

Mrs. Alice Scott has been with the District for 31 years as a 6th Grade Teacher.

Mrs. Judy Stoll has been with the District for 23 years as a 7th and 8th Grade Spanish Teacher.

Mrs. Theresa Stores has been with the District for 32 years as a Regular Education Teacher of Grades 5 and 6, as well as a Special Education Resource Room Teacher for elementary and middle school students.

The staff members will be honored at a dinner on June 4th at the Stockton Inn. Our school will not be the same without these great people. We wish them the best in their retirement.

Have a great summer! See you in September!

Sincerely,

Edward Stoloski
Superintendent



The Principal's View

Dear Parents,

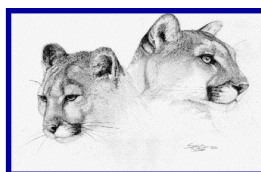
June promises to be an exciting month, especially for our 8th graders. As you move on to high school, I hope you will have fond memories of your years at East Amwell. Please remember to thank all of the staff members who have prepared you so well and have given so much of their time.

Graduation will be at 7:00 pm on June 23rd. As you may remember from last year, all student awards (sports and academic) will be given out during an assembly on June 23rd at 9:10 am in the Gym. We would love to have as many people in attendance as possible to support our students!

In closing, I would like to thank parents, guardians, teachers, and Board members for all of your help and support in making East Amwell a top notch school!! Enjoy the summer months with your children and remember to have them read and to practice their math facts!

Have a great summer.

Sincerely, **John Capuano**
Principal



School Vision Statement:

East Amwell Township School District... is a safe, supportive community that recognizes all students as unique individuals and provides opportunities for academic, artistic, cultural, emotional, physical, social and character development in a diverse and ever-changing society.

2: PTO Meeting 9:15 AM

2: Kindergarten

4: 8th Grade Class Trip

7: Staff Development /

11: 8th Gr. Dinner Cruise

22-23: Early Dismissal

23: Awards Ceremony

23: 8th Grade Graduation

24: Last Day of School /
Early Dismissal

25: Last Day Staff



Athletic Schedule

Thank You... To all of the students and coaches who participated in intramural and interscholastic sports this school year. Congratulations on a job well done!!



IMPORTANT JUNE FACTS

According to the Georgian calendar, which is used over most of the world today, June is the sixth month. On the Roman calendar, it was considered the fourth month and had only 29 days. Julius Caesar gave the month 30 days in 46 B.C., when he reformed the Roman calendar.

Spring ends and summer begins around June 20, 21, or 22 in the Northern Hemisphere. It's the time that the flowers are beautiful. It is especially the month for roses. In the Southern hemisphere, winter begins during June, and it brings cold, rainy weather to this part of the world.



Flag Day: June 14th

Flag Day is observed in the United States on June 14. It commemorates the day in 1777 when the Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes as our flag. It then had only 13 stars, to match its 13 stripes.

It's not an official national holiday, but in Pennsylvania, it is a legal holiday. The President has proclaimed a public flag day observance every year. It was first observed to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the selection of the flag. President Harry S. Truman officially recognized June 14 as Flag Day by signing the National Flag Day Bill.



A Poem For June

"A something in a summer's Day
As slow her flambeaux burn away
Which solemnizes me.

A something in a summer's noon --
A depth -- an Azure -- a perfume --
Transcending ecstasy.

And still within a summer's night
A something so transporting bright
I clap my hands to see --

Then veil my too inspecting face
Lest such a subtle -- shimmering grace
Flutter too far for me --

The wizard fingers never rest --
The purple brook within the breast
Still chafes its narrow bed --

Still rears the East her amber Flag --
Guides still the sun along the Crag
His Caravan of Red --

So looking on -- the night -- the morn
Conclude the wonder gay --
And I meet, coming thro' the dews
Another summer's Day!"

- Emily Dickinson, *A Something in a Summer's Day*



Summer Reading Program

Dear East Amwell Families,

Summer is almost here and with it comes many opportunities for enjoyable summer reading. Reading for students over the summer provides enjoyment, builds vocabulary, and strengthens important critical reading skills. It is a time to self-select independent reading and try new genres. Summer is also a great time to select a chapter or book to either read aloud or read together in a family book club.

Books are like old friends and I would like to share some of my favorite ones with you. If you decide to read any of my suggestions, email me and let me know what your thoughts are about the book or author. Brown, Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?, by Bill Martin Jr., Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?, by Nancy White Carlstrom, The True Story of the Three Little Pigs, by Jon Scieszka, The Rainbabies, by Laura Kraus Melmed, Thank You, Mr. Falker, by Patricia Polacco, Hatchet, by Gary Paulson, and my all time favorite young adult novel, Jacob Have I Loved, by Katherine Paterson.

Some of my friends here at East Amwell have suggestions for you too! Mrs. Spangler recommends Chasing Redbird by Sharon Creech, Mrs. Orlando recommends Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel, Mrs. Royer recommends Where the Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak, Mrs. Rivera recommends Holes, by Louis Sachar, and Miss DellaPenna recommends Tangerine by Edward Bloor.

In June, Miss DellaPenna will send home information about the East Amwell School Summer Reading Program. I hope everyone participates and enjoys a summer filled with fun, relaxation, and good books!

Have a wonderful summer and keep reading!

Mrs. Higgins

Reading Specialist

SPARK Teacher



A Message from Your Board of Education

Following the budget defeat, the Mayor and the East Amwell Township Committee contacted the Board to request that we cut an additional \$78,532 from our 2010-2011 school budget. This amount is equal to one cent reduction in taxes.



We are pleased to report that the Teacher's Association met with the Board and agreed to forego their percentage salary increase as well as giving back other negotiated financial incentives in their 2010-2011 contract to cover the cuts made by the township. As a result, no other cuts are necessary in the budget, thus saving programs and staff members.

The wage freeze is in addition to central office freezes and administration and support staff health care contributions that were already included in our final budget adopted in March.

The Township, the Board, and the entire staff worked very hard and quickly to facilitate this in order to preserve a positive working relationship and a healthy school environment.

Additionally, East Amwell School just received our QSAC monitoring scores from the state. East Amwell passed and was declared a "high performing school" by the Commissioner of Education. We all want to maintain that standard and believe, based on this agreement, we can continue to provide a quality education for the children of East Amwell.

The last few months have been difficult, but we are pleased that our Staff, Administration, Board of Education, and Township officials worked in a positive productive manner to meet the new state mandates.

On behalf of the Board, we wish all East Amwell families a relaxing and safe summer.

Recycling Efforts

Thank you to the families and students that have been supporting our recycling efforts at the school. This year we have raised 560.00 dollars from trash from the lunch room, sporting events, snack time, and even from your homes. Please help us to continue our efforts in saving needless trash from landfills.

Throughout the summer I will still be sending in items to Terracycle for them to reuse and upcycle. A **COLLECTION BIN** will be in the **MAIN OFFICE** and I will maintain it weekly. If your child attends summer playground or is at the school for other events you could leave these materials in the Container in the Main Office. This could help you save a trash bag or two!

Some items we collect: All cookie wrappers, all energy bar/breakfast bar wrappers, Plastic Ziploc Baggies (any plastic bag with the lock seal), Ziploc reusable containers, Capri Sun, Minute Maid, Honest Kids (Pouch Drinks), Chip Bags, Pretzel Bags, Popcorn Bags, Cheese Nips, All candy wrappers, Markers, Highlighters, Pens, Ink cartridges, cell phones, DVD discs.

The Environment and the Environmental Club Thanks you!

Sharon Ernst
 5th Grade Teacher
 Environmental Club Advisor



PTO News

The past few months have been busy months for the PTO committees. The 5th & 6th grades held their ever popular *Survivor Night* where teams competed against each other in a variety of challenges, and the 7th and 8th graders were treated to a *Beach Party* with a live DJ and refreshments. In the beginning of May we held our annual Mothers Day Plant Sale which gave students the opportunity to purchase flowers, while raising funds for the PTO. During Teacher Appreciation Week we provided breakfast and lunch for the teachers. The theme was Hawaiian Holiday and parents donated a variety of home made and prepared dishes.

Despite the poor economy and reduced fund raising, the PTO has still been able to fund all of our programs and activities. Our biggest fund raiser this year has been our Gift Card program. This month will be your last chance to buy cards until the Fall - remember, they make great Birthday and Father's Day gifts. The General Mills Box Tops for Education program has also continued to be a good fund raiser, netting us over \$1,100 this year. This month we also had a great 50/50 raffle where the top prize was \$1,465.

As the school year ends, we'd like to extend a big Thank You to all of the PTO volunteers that have worked so hard to run our events and activities, to all of the parents that contributed their time and effort, and to our retiring officers, Lisa Saponara and Pam DeStefano who served the PTO for many years and helped build a great organization.

Finally, we'd like to send congratulations to our 8th grade graduating class. As you go forth in the world, always remember the words of the great Nelson Mandela:

PTO

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world!

- Andy Beck -